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Utility Patent
Ser. No. 10/688,672

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Before entry of the present amendment, Claims 3-6, 8, 9, and 16-29 were pending. Claims 5-6 and 9 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 18-20 were objected to as being dependent upon a base claim, but were considered allowable if rewritten in independent form. Since Claim 18 was previously a multiple dependent claim dependent upon claims 3, 4, 8 or 16, those claims (3, 4, 8 and 16) have been amended to incorporate the restrictions of claim 18, and should therefore now be considered allowable.

Claim 19 is now multiply dependent upon newly amended claims 3, 4, 8 or 16, and should therefore now be considered allowable.

Claims 21-24 and 29 are now multiply dependant on claims 3, 4, 8 or 16 [[or 17]], and should therefore now be considered allowable.

The appropriate fee accompanied the previous response.

Therefore, in view of foregoing amendments and clarifications, the applicant submits that allowance of the present application and all remaining claims, as amended, is in order and a formal Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully submitted,


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REV: 5/17/05